

4-24-2013

Montana Kaimin, April 24, 2013

Students of The University of Montana, Missoula

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MISSOULA

Close Calls, Close Co-Workers: Survivor of near-fatal heart attack shares his story



Thom Bridge/Montana Kaimin

Thanks to quick action taken by his co-workers, Hilton 'Skip' Conroy survived a heart attack on April 17, 2013 and is back to work.

Ashley Nerbovig
Montana Kaimin

Two Facility Service workers sit together in mismatched chairs around a coffee-stained, paper-strewn table and reflect on the events of the past week.

"Damn good thing I like looking at your ugly mug," Don Reynolds said to Hilton 'Skip' Conroy. "Lucky I like you, that's not usual for non-Montana-natives."

The two men, who have worked together since March, are now laughing together, relaxing after a long day of work.

"I guess you'll be wanting the whole story," Conroy said.

Conroy, a burly middle-aged man with a bushy mustache and glasses, appears to be in the prime health when you meet him. Last week however, while working with his other facility services labor crewmembers, he suffered a nearly fatal heart attack.

"I thought it was just heartburn," Conroy said. "I'd been having it for nearly a week

See HEART page 4

CAMPUS

Faculty demands say in budget cuts

Grace Ryan
Montana Kaimin

In response to pending budget cuts, a group of University of Montana College of Arts and Sciences faculty members started a petition in attempt to increase communication between the administration and faculty, staff and students about how those budget cuts should be handled.

The petition calls on the administration to stop making unilateral decisions and to start involving faculty in conversations about how to contain costs. It also suggests eliminat-

ing unnecessary administrative positions, the Global Leadership Initiative, the Graduate School, all centers and institutes that aren't self-supporting and any extravagant administrative spending like out-of-state travels. The petition also calls on the administration to reclaim a \$1 million investment in Enrollment Services and to reinvest that money in existing programs. Finally, it suggests that each of the top administrators return 5 percent of his or her salary to the academic budget to support affected programs and eliminated classes.

"This is a university and

universities are here for students, faculty and staff," history professor and co-author of the petition Mehrdad Kia said. "The bureaucracy comes as the servant of these three groups, not as people who should decide on their own what they want to do to us."

History professor Michael Meyer said cutting the budget for existing courses, programs and faculty members would only continue to hurt enrollment numbers, which could result in larger budget cuts in the future.

"We're cutting sections

See BUDGET page 4

CAMPUS

Native students push to create new position

Bjorn Bergeson
Montana Kaimin

Native American students are petitioning the University of Montana and the Associated Students of the University of Montana in an attempt to create and fund a full-time Native American financial aid specialist for the Financial Aid office. The students said having a representative would help Native students through the hurdles of applying for financial aid.

Amanda Stovall, co-author

of the proposal, said the position would help streamline the often-daunting registration process many Native American students go through.

"For Native American students, it can actually be really difficult for us to go through the process of financial aid because we have unique situations such as higher education scholarships and tuition fee waivers," Stovall said.

The federal government gives blocks of loans to

See FINANCIAL AID page 5





POLITICS COLUMN

YOUR WORLD THIS WEEK

Finding the Silver Lining

By Lilian Langston

Last week the United States Senate voted down every single gun bill that appeared before them. President Obama had been campaigning for stricter gun laws since the Newtown, tragedy, but his bill requiring stricter background checks seems unlikely to return unless another massacre shakes the nation. However, this bill's failure is opening the door for immigration reform.

The immigration reform was brought on by "The Gang of Eight" — a bipartisan group that consists of Senators Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., John McCain, R-Ariz., Bob Menendez, D-N.J., Marco Rubio, R-Fla., Dick Durbin, D-Ill., Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., Michael Bennet, D-Colo., and Jeff Flake, R-Ariz. The bill includes four changes to current law: legalizing undocumented immigrants, increasing border security, strengthening employment screening and creating temporary worker programs.

The possibility of both the gun law and the immigration law passing was too much for moderate Republicans and conservative Democrats to handle, especially those hoping to run for re-election. But with the gun bill now out of the picture, it seems plausible for immigration reform to pass.

There are several reasons that immigration reform is seen differently than gun control reform. One of them is timing. While the gun bill was a relatively last-minute decision, the immigration reform has been a bipartisan effort for months. The "Gang" has been working on a compromise since the election in November, and opponents of the gun bill — like Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky. — have expressed a level of support for the immigration reform.

And then there are the 2012 election-related considerations that add to the appeal of the reform. Mitt Romney reined in a not-so-shocking 27 percent of Latino vote in the 2012 Presidential election. With that in mind, many Republicans are (smartly) in favor of the bill because they want to entice Hispanic voters through social issues.

I see it as an overall disappointment that the gun bill did not pass, and the fact that lawmakers are waiting on yet another tragedy to happen before considering the bill again baffles me beyond words. On the other hand, the opportunity for the immigration reform to pass is a breath of fresh air — especially when considering the differing opinions that this "Gang of Eight" has. It would be a mistake to assume that this reform will automatically pass, but the failure of the gun bill gives it more than a glimmer of hope.

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heard around the
OVAL

UC

"I've got a f—ing masters in slacking, dude."

HEALTH SERVICES

"I want a meat sandwich."

SOCIAL SCIENCES

"I'm in no mood to be gentle with anyone!"

DAH

That's not what her face looks like when her body is attached to it."

ARTS + CULTURE COLUMN

KEEP MISSOULA WEIRD

Hyperactivist

By Brooks Johnson, A+C editor

So the mighty Baucus machine isn't running for re-election in 2014 — whadya gonna do about it? Probably, for most of you, shrug and not care until Election Day, if even then. Yet a small — but loud and well organized — percentage of you are already turning the wheels to get State Superintendent Denise Juneau or former Gov. Schweitzer to run for his seat (didn't we just want him to run for prez in '16?). Likewise, wherever the Republicans in area town hang (Frenchtown?), they too are preparing to get Rep. Daines or Corey Stapleton on the ballot. It never ends, does it?

One of Missoula's greatest strengths is our devout political candor. Big marches, big progressive movements and big organizational efforts abound. Big surprise, it's also one of our singular flaws. Like the Congress we try so hard to influence, polarity is the name of the game. For every conservation campaign gone too far, there are the Hippie Haters (that's a real thing, it seems). For every noble goal of Bike-Walk-Bus week, there

are those that choose to live far from work/school and burn gas like beach bonfires. For every member of Men of Strength there are the prospective National Coalition of Men rank-and-files. (The difference between those two is so vast I'll just have to direct you to the archives to avoid getting angry about the latter.) Oh see, I got riled up.

There are politics in everything in this town, especially on campus, where we're more or less expected to wage ideological war in some way or another. Unfortunately, thanks to the Internet, we don't have to read opinions we don't want to anymore. We don't even have to click on news sites we don't feel cover our concerns favorably. Missoula doesn't exist in a vacuum of this reality: In fact the valley inversion probably exacerbates it. If you remember the free-speech-zone incidents this year, then yeah, there are plenty of peo-

ple ready to buy into the bottomless rhetoric of traveling talkers. (Of course many of those sermon-slingers mistake "piety" for "bigotry.")

This is by no means a call for apathy. There is plenty of that lingering like smoke on this campus. What we need is empathy for one another's views and reasoning. Let's not let Missoula get TOO weird, now. Why isn't there a College Independents group? Why don't we finally take Bill Hicks' advice and start the "People Who Hate People Political Party?" (Oh yeah, no one would show up.) Why can't we challenge ourselves to read the opinions of someone we disagree with every day in order to find compromises? Stand tall for your causes but don't stand so stubbornly a rogue bear decides to adopt you. Actually, do that. We'll keep trying to find middle ground.

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GOT NEWS?

We've got news for you. Please send any news tips, ideas and press releases to EDITOR@MONTANAKAIMIN.COM.

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CAMPUS

Wildlife biology professors migrate from UM

Tom Kuglin

For the Montana Kaimin

Sitting in his office on the third floor of the forestry building, Dan Pletscher looked inquisitively at the image on his computer screen of a decayed rodent he was trying to identify.

"It's too small to be a muskrat," he said.

Seeming reasonably satisfied that the carcass was an escaped pet rat, Pletscher returned to the task at hand — recalling the details of a career that has spanned nearly three decades at the University of Montana — a career ending in June when he retires as Director of Wildlife Biology.

"I didn't know there was such a thing as wildlife biology when I was in high school," he said. "I just always enjoyed

wild places and wild things."

In February, the program was named as a Program of National Distinction by the University's administration and consistently ranks near the top of all wildlife biology programs in the country.

Wildlife Biology has more than 350 undergraduates and more than 50 graduate students, making it one of the most popular fields on campus. Pletscher has mentored many of them, always keeping his door open to anyone who wants to talk.

"We get some great students here from all over the country, all over the world," he said. "I'll miss the students. It's been a wonderful experience."

It seems many of his students will miss him as well. Sophomore Leanne Schuh, who took Careers in Natural Resources from Pletscher, recalled his love

of environmentalist Aldo Leopold and how he would begin each class with a natural resources-themed joke.

"He's been super supportive," Schuh said. "He's funny and really easy to talk to."

Pletscher did not set out to research and teach about wildlife. He graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1974 with an engineering degree.

"I did well but I hated it," Pletscher said.

By the time he earned his doctorate from Yale in 1982, Pletscher had found his life's work as a professor and researcher. Under his direction, the wildlife biology program has grown to reflect the exponential possibilities Montana's wild places have to offer.

"He has truly grown this program into world class," wildlife biology professor

and friend L. Scott Mills said. "That's just been amazing to be along for the ride."

Mills is also leaving after 18 years at UM, returning to his home state of North Carolina to teach and do research at North Carolina State University.

"Almost all of us that are in this field got into it because we love being outside and we love observing nature," Mills said. "By being true to the fieldwork aspect and the natural history aspect, we're also being true really in a sense to our souls as well."

Pletscher's career has taken him all over the world from researching wolves near Glacier National Park to studying endangered markhor goats in Pakistan.

He has seen many advances in wildlife biology during his time at UM. The field has an increased focus on non-invasive techniques to study animals. Modeling of animal distribution takes minutes rather than days with today's computer programs. And radio telemetry used to track animals is now GPS capable.

"We used to be on the ground or in planes," he said. "Now we're tracking animals by satellite."

Pletscher leaves a strong legacy of supportive colleagues, students and friends at UM, and he plans to stay in Missoula and do a bit more gardening and fishing once the semester ends.

The University is currently interviewing candidates to take over the director position. They have already brought in several candidates and hope to have the job filled by the time fall semester begins.

"The program is clearly a significant program at the University of Montana," Perry Brown, UM provost and former dean of the College of Forestry, said. "We intend to keep it right there at the top."

As the wildlife biology program searches for its new leader, Pletscher remains optimistic at the future of the program he helped build. He recognized the apprehension that comes with change but also points to the possibilities as well.

"These people will bring new insights," he said. "I think the University of Montana will continue to be a world leader in wildlife conservation for a long time."

tom.kuglin@umontana.edu

FOR RELEASE APRIL 24, 2013

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Singer Bryant
- 6 Tooted in a Revolutionary band
- 11 Jacques, e.g.
- 14 Common java hr.
- 15 "___ of Two Cities"
- 16 Be in the red
- 17 Michael Jackson memorabilia
- 19 Coal container
- 20 Met display
- 21 Met supporter: Abbr.
- 22 Completely drained
- 24 Cold War concerns
- 27 Web address ending
- 28 Line-drawing tool
- 33 Fruity
- 36 Aristotelian pair?
- 37 Cauliflower ___: boxing injury
- 38 "Exodus" author
- 39 Heavy curtain
- 41 Head of a family?
- 42 Channel for film buffs
- 43 Jalapeño rating characteristic
- 44 Nemo creator Verne
- 45 Conversational skill
- 49 Info source, with "the"
- 50 Like early life forms
- 54 Shakespearean actor Kenneth
- 58 SALT subject
- 59 Worker who handles returns, briefly
- 60 Tune
- 61 Uno ancestor, and, in a way, what are hidden in 17-, 28- and 45-Across
- 64 Prune
- 65 New worker
- 66 Pick of the litter
- 67 Sot's symptoms
- 68 Readied, as the presses
- 69 Deep sleep

DOWN

- 1 Engaged in armed conflict

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67				68					69			

By Ed Sessa

4/24/13

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

C	O	S	M	O		A	S	H		J	A	B	B	A
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		F	R	O	S	T		N	I	X	O	N		
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B	E	E	S			O	L	E			G	E	L	D

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4/24/13

- 40 Dirty one in a memorable Cagney line
- 41 Sugar shape
- 43 Terrace cooker
- 44 Night-night clothes?
- 46 DDE, in WWII
- 47 Worn at the edges
- 48 Sarcastic remark
- 51 TV monitoring device

- 52 Most likely will, after "is"
- 53 Surgery beam
- 54 Not in need of a barber
- 55 Mob action
- 56 It may run from cheek to cheek
- 57 Carol opening
- 62 Zip code start?
- 63 Day-___: pigment brand

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HEART
From page 1

now. Going to the gym and everything, but I just thought it was heartburn."

It wasn't until Conroy attempted to pull a tarp over a trolley that he began to feel the tightness in his shoulders that signaled his heart was being deprived of oxygen. Conroy said he still didn't understand what was happening and told Reynolds, and their fellow worker, Jason Barkee, that it was only heartburn.

"I might have bought into it if he'd had any color in him," Reynolds said.

Reynolds told Conroy that Barkee would drive him to the hospital. According to University policy, in these situations workers on site are supposed to call the emergency services and wait for an ambulance, but due to the location of the storage area, they decided it would be better to just take Conroy to the hospital themselves.

"They said you know, 'what if you'd have had to perform CPR on the drive,'" Reynolds said. "I'm like, I'm 30 minutes from the hospital, I think I could have smacked him on the chest."

Newton Coutinho, a cardiologist at Community Medical Center said if Reynolds and Barkee had not acted so quickly and been so close to the hospital, Conroy most likely would have died.

Barkee said as soon as he and

"It was like a swarm of bees around you, sticking you with needles and throwing pillows down your throat."

Hilton 'Skip' Conroy

Conroy arrived at Community, the doctors recognized Conroy's symptoms.

"They didn't pause or do any of that crap," Barkee said. "They just took him straight into the back room."

Conroy said he was overwhelmed, but surprised at the doctors' reactions. In his head, he was fine.

"It was like a swarm of bees around you," Conroy said of the doctor's actions. "Sticking you with needles and throwing pills down your throat."

Barkee said at that point he stayed around and waited for Conroy's wife to arrive.

Conroy's wife of 35 years, Deborah, said she got the call while she was at work in the University of Montana's human resources department.

Mrs. Conroy was terrified by the news, and said she never wants to receive a call like that again.

"I started crying," she said. "Grabbed my bag and started running to the car."

Mrs. Conroy said she feels very grateful to Reynolds and Barkee.

"They call heart attacks like this 'widow makers,'" Mrs. Conroy said.

Conroy's son Jeremiah, 26, was able to see him in the hospital, but his other son Dakota, 23, is studying abroad in Germany. Conroy said there was some difficulty in contacting Dakota after the heart attack.

Reynolds also visited Conroy in the hospital and said that he was surprised to see him up and fine when he got there.

"I went in to visit him the next day and he was like, I'll be getting out of here in an hour or so," Reynolds said.

Conroy was back at work the next day. The doctor had asked him when he wanted to go back and Conroy said "tomorrow." The doctor had told him that would be fine.

"I guess I could have taken more time off," Conroy said. "But that just puts these guys in a bind."

Conroy said he has to change his diet, avoid fatty foods from now on, and that the incident definitely made him think. Conroy said that nine times out of ten, he would have just gone home.

"I'm still kicking," Conroy said. "Live on another day to hunt and fish."

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BUDGET
From page 1

because we're short on students, then we lose more students so we cut more sections. It creates a downward spiral and we need to do something to break that," Meyer said.

The group stressed the importance of putting money back into those core programs that make UM the state's flagship institution. And in order to do this, budget cuts would have to come from other places, like administration.

"We would hope that the administration would reconsider the cuts against academy programs by looking carefully at the nooks and cranny of the administration of the institution to see if money could be saved there," Modern and Classical Languages Professor Michel Valentin said.

Kia also explained that enrollment can only be high or low relative to projections, and therefore, the problem of low enrollment and the need for budget cuts stem not from bad luck, but from a miscalculation made by the administration.

"Why should the faculty pay for the miscalculation of the administration? Why should the most vulnerable pay first for the failures of the administration? Why shouldn't the administration start with itself?" Kia said.

Peggy Kuhr, UM's vice president of integrated communications, said that President Royce

Engstrom has been working on face-to-face communication, answering questions and hearing the concerns of individual schools and colleges on campus about budget cuts.

"I think everyone who works here respects the deep feelings and hard work of the faculty," Khur said.

Ultimately, the group hopes for better communication between the administration and faculty.

"This is not an attempt to embarrass the administration or cause noise. It's just to express to the Main Hall what we have been hearing from so many people," Kia said. "The reason we had to make this statement was to make the administration aware that there are a lot of people feeling the pinch and feeling the pain and if they do not speak out it does not mean that it doesn't exist."

The petition was signed by more than 30 faculty members from the departments of history, anthropology, English, Central Southwest Asian Studies and more. Although the petition was only distributed to the College of Arts and Sciences, the group welcomes and encourages support from all UM faculty, staff and students.

"We want this to be a win-win situation for everyone involved," Kia said.

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Pres/Vp Teams: 2

Andersen, Ashlynn Senator

Anyango, Diana Senator

Armstrong, Taylor Senator

Bailey, Genevieve Senator

Batey, Sierra Senator

Blomker, Colton Senator

Boslough, Becca Senator

Cain, Brennen Senator

Chandler, Claire Senator

Dobson, Christopher Senator

Ellinger, Chase Senator

Foster, Jacob Senator

Frissell, Peregrine Senator

Galbreath, KWebb Senator

Green, Anita Senator

Haefner, Matt Senator

Hazen, Ryan Senator

Heimlich-Bowler, Nico Senator

Ho, Henry Senator

Kinda, Noela Senator

Knudson, Jonathon Senator

Koehler, Randy Senator

Kuhn, David Senator

Kuiper, Benjamin Senator

Lillquist, Erik Senator

McKay, Meagan Senator

Mikkola, Andrew Senator

Murthi, Kamalashri Senator

Ormseth, Eamon Senator

Riley, Luke Senator

Roddy, Jan Senator

Schmauch, Kyle Senator

Simpson, Brandon Senator

Story, Betsy Senator

Thompson, Sam Senator

Hohman, Asa President

Williams, Mariah Vice President

Sather, Sarah President

Kemmick, Pari Vice President

Dolezal, Shelby Ryann Bus. Mgr

Hopkins, Mike Bus. Mgr

Watkins, Nicole Bus. Mgr

FINANCIAL AID From page 1

individual tribes. The tribes then disperse the loans to eligible students through higher education scholarships. How a student qualifies for a tribal higher education scholarship changes depending on the tribe. The financial aid specialist would be up to date with the federal system and tribal requirements. Stovall said some of the language used for Native student aid could cause confusion.

"Higher education scholarships are titled scholarships, but I believe that they actually should be classified under a different name, because there is an entirely different set of regulations attached to those," Stovall said.

Student senator Sean Schilke is sponsoring the petition through ASUM. He said hearing of the problems Native students face made him want to advocate for the proposal.

"Most students don't have to go through all of the processes, like fee waivers, and higher education scholarships," Schilke said. "(Native students) have a different type of situation facing them."

Janita Reyes said one of those different situations is the independent verification process. Reyes is a Native student from Washington. Since enrolling at UM in 2011, Reyes said she has been selected a lot for a random process.

"I've conveniently been randomly drawn to verify my taxes every single year," Reyes said.

"For Native American students, it can actually be really difficult for us to go through the process of financial aid because we have a unique situation."

Amanda Stovall, Co-author of proposal

A student who has been selected for independent verification must pick up a work sheet from the Financial Aid office, fill it out and return it with tax information from themselves and their parents. The worksheet can take anywhere from two weeks to a month or even longer to process.

"I think this fall was the longest verification period I've had since I got here. And that was such a stressful feeling," Reyes said.

Reyes said it is hard on students going through the process, and in her opinion, Native students are more likely to be selected for independent verification than other students.

Kent McGowan, director of financial aid at UM, said the independent verification process randomly selects around 30 percent of all students receiving financial aid, and though it is tedious, Native students are not selected at higher rates than other students.

A full-time liaison in the financial aid office would help Native students understand what their requirements are, both from their

tribes and from the University, Stovall said.

Meanwhile, McGowan said even though the process can be a challenge for Native students and others, adding a full-time employee to the office wouldn't necessarily make a difference in how quickly financial aid is dispersed.

"While I would agree that making sure that they are understanding the process and walking them through it is a good idea, do we need to have a full-time position for it? Absolutely not," McGowan said.

But Stovall said delaying Native students access to financial aid hurts student retention.

"I believe we are losing students," Stovall said. "We are not retaining them. Especially Native students."

Both Stovall and Schilke said they believe the resolution for the position will pass through ASUM Wednesday night. After that, the proposal will be sent to administration officials who will decide whether or not to implement it.

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MONTANA

Baucus rules out 7th Senate term

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus of Montana announced plans Tuesday to retire at the end of his term after a career of enormous power and notable independence, producing both collaboration and conflict with fellow Democrats on major tax and health care legislation.

"I don't want to die here with my boots on. There is life beyond Congress," the 71-year-old Baucus said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press.

He became the eighth senator to announce retirement plans for 2014, and the sixth Democrat. One public poll recently suggested he would have faced a difficult challenge if he had sought a seventh term.

Republicans must gain six seats in 2014 to win a majority, and they said the retirement enhanced their prospects.

Yet Democrats were cheered when former Democratic Gov. Brian Schweitzer, who recently stepped down after two terms,

swiftly expressed interest in the race.

In a brief statement, President Barack Obama said Baucus "has been a leader on a broad range of issues that touch the lives of Americans across the country."

Sen. Chuck Grassley, an Iowa Republican and Baucus' frequent legislative partner, was complimentary, too. "We ran the Finance Committee for 10 years together, and every bill except for three or four was bipartisan," he said in a statement. "The Senate will be worse off as a deliberative body when Senator Baucus leaves."

In a written statement, Baucus sketched an ambitious agenda for the rest of his term, topped by an overhaul of the tax code.

"Our country and our state face enormous challenges - rising debt, a dysfunctional tax code, threats to our outdoor heritage and the need for more good-paying jobs," he said, adding several Montana-specific priorities as well.

Baucus, a fifth-generation

See BAUCUS, page 12

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Candace Rojo/ Montana Kaimin

Sarah Newton, a senior studying exercise science, holds a pose during Yoga on the Oval, a class offered through Optimal Bear for Earth Week. The program was moved into the Rec Center due to snow.

EARTH WEEK 2013

Griz get earthy

Riley Pavelich

Montana Kaimin

The celebration of Mother Earth is not limited to a single day at the University of Montana; participants can get involved in an "eco-pentathlon" of events throughout the week.

The actual day set aside for celebrating the earth was Monday. Yoga on the Oval was scheduled for noon to 1 p.m. Inevitably, the balmy spring weather changed just in time to mess up the plans. With an inch of snow blanketing the Oval, yogis retreated to the Rec Center.

Four holdouts found their way to the furthest corner of the Rec Center courts where they wound through a moving meditation. A middle-aged gentleman in sneakers trembled in plank position as he tried to find stability, while a more experienced woman behind him flowed smoothly from pose to pose.

"Yoga is pretty spiritual for me," said Anna Vanuga, who is in training as a wellness coach at Curry Health Center. The senior at UM majoring in Community Health and Spanish, thought of the idea of bringing yoga to students as a free event.

"Curry Health Center does a lot of tabling at seminars and at the UC, but the point of proposing cool programs is actually implementing them and getting people involved," she said.

Vanuga, who has practiced yoga for six years, said yoga helps reduce students' stress and manage the obstacles in their life.

"Yoga is definitely a lifestyle," Vanuga said. "It turns into a willingness to care for yourself, care for others and care for the environment."

Elsewhere, more students loved their Mother during Dig Day for the 1,000 New Gardens projects. About 30 volunteers gathered in Kiwanis Park on Sunday before heading out to install eight new food plots in backyards around Missoula. This program was founded by UM environmental studies students in 2009 and has continued to install or maintain almost 15 gardens per semester.

"We have a lot of satisfied people with their gardens," said Abby Stoner, co-president of the Missoula chapter. "They harvested way more food than they expected and were able to share with their neighbors."

The mission is to reduce carbon footprint, lower the grocery bill and bring high quality produce right to the backyard. This team of DIY Missoulians helps convert grassy fields into a sort of organic grocery store.

For the 1,000 New Gardens Project, the fun doesn't stop on Earth Day. Catch their next Dig Day on Sunday at noon in Kiwanis Park.

riley.pavelich@umconnect.umt.edu

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UM stresses importance of sustainability

Grace Ryan

Montana Kaimin

Amidst all of the white, the University of Montana went green for Earth Week 2013 on Saturday and Sunday. A snowstorm promptly followed the outdoor events, but the snow didn't dampen the spirit of the week.

UM is hosting a wide variety of green events this week, looking to raise awareness of sustainability in the community. The week will include an Art of Recycling Competition, a Sustainability Workshop, a Rabbit Raising Workshop, the Mountain Line Birthday Party and more.

"Earth week isn't the only week we do these things," Environmental Studies Professor Vicki Watson said. "It's just the only time we make a point of trying to draw in as many new people as possible. This week will be more educational and will include all sorts of fun events on campus."

The University Dining Services is holding the Art of Recycling competition where students can submit artwork made only out of recycled materials, such as cardboard, newspaper, paper, plastics and Coca-Cola products. Materials like glue, tape and wire can be used to hold the pieces together.

The two submission categories are "form," which is a piece of artwork, and "function," which is a piece that serves a functional purpose. Three winners will be selected in each category. One prize will go to the best individual entry, one to the best group entry with a maximum of four people in a group, and one to the winner of the People's Choice contest. Faculty from the School of Art and from Environmental Studies will select the winners for the best individual and group entries. The People's Choice voting boxes will be available all week in the University Center Commons.

Entries must be submitted to the University Dining Services Office in the Lommasson Center, room 145 between Monday and Thursday. The entries will be displayed in the UC Commons all week and prizes will be awarded on Friday at noon.

On Wednesday, the Associated Students of the University of Montana is hosting the UM Bus Day and Birthday Party to celebrate the Mountain Line turning 35 years old. From 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., there will be Mountain Line and ASUM buses on the Oval, as well as music by Off in the Woods, artwork by kids from Chief Charlo Elementary and



Candace Rojo/ Montana Kaimin

Katie Nelson, a graduate student studying environmental studies and director of the University of Montana Forum Living with Appropriate Technology, talks to a Spanish class about the importance of environmental consciousness in the FLAT's studio Monday afternoon.

bus-themed cupcakes.

ASUM is also holding a photo contest for the most exciting place you can go by bus. Photos must be posted to the ASUM Instagram, Twitter or Facebook page by Wednesday. Three winners will receive a \$50 gift card to either the UM Bookstore, Southgate Mall or Missoula downtown businesses.

"The idea is that those are three places you can get to really easily on transit in Missoula," said Benjamin Courteau, director of the ASUM Office of Transportation.

This year, ASUM is more involved with Earth Week than they've been in the past and Courteau stressed the importance of students becoming familiar with public transportation.

"When we're talking about being sustainable and helping with climate change, the way we get around to school, to work, to play, is one of the main ways we have an impact," Courteau said. "Biking and taking transit is a great tangible way to help our community and the whole world."

On Thursday, UM is holding a Sustainability at Work and Home Workshop from 10 a.m. to noon in UC room 326. Cherie Peacock, the Director of the Office of Sustainability, said the workshop will include information about what UM is doing to maintain a sustainable

campus, as well as how UM will incorporate sustainability into the curriculum in the future.

The workshop will also talk about recycling, alternative transportation and how students can incorporate these ideas of sustainability at home.

"Climate change is so huge that many of us can't comprehend how our little impact can make a difference," Peacock said. "But if we just ignore it, it's not going to go away. By engaging in some-

thing you believe will make a difference, it gives hope."

On Wednesday, the UM Forum Living with Appropriate Technology is hosting a Rabbit-Raising Workshop from 6 to 8 p.m.

Other Earth Week events include a Climate Change Talk, information tables from various "green groups," UM's Farm-to-College 10 year celebration at the Food Zoo, a Missoula Green Energy Tour and more.

"Our efforts at sustainability and caring for the earth are important because we only have one and we seem to be using it up at a very rapid rate," Watson said. "I hope students will take away that very idea that they can make a difference and not to give up. It's their future that depends on it."

For more information, visit www.umt.edu/earthday.

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SN The University of Montana

Comedy powerhouse slings jokes, puppets

Jeff Dunham to ham up the Adams Center with help of puppet troupe

Christopher Allen

Montana Kaimin

One of the most popular and successful comedians of the last five years is coming to Missoula this Thursday. And he's bringing his puppets with him.

If Jeff Dunham's name doesn't tickle your memory, dig on this: He's pulling in over 20 million bones a year. Along with other comedy powerhouses like Jerry Seinfeld and Chris Rock, Dunham gazes down from on high as a member of Forbes' list of 100 most powerful celebrities, nestled nicely in between Reese Witherspoon and Larry the Cable Guy. How'd you like to be the meat in that sandwich?

His act swims in the same waters as many other stand-up comics. Jokes about terrorism, sexuality, and racism are all prominent. But with puppets. Dunham's "Very Special Christmas Special" on Comedy Central broke the channel's rating record and sold millions of copies on DVD. After signing a deal with Comedy Central, Dunham launched his own TV show, only to see it canceled after one season.

One of his most popular characters is Achmed the Dead Terrorist, whose undead visage resembles a bearded skeleton with a fire-singed turban and bulging eyeballs. YouTube videos featuring Achmed have garnered more than 150 million views. With 7.5 million Facebook likes and more than 350,000 followers on Twitter, Dunham is a social media force of nature.

Another popular character, Walter, is grumpy, squinty-eyed codger, spouting old-school conservatism, complaints about the menstrual cycle and general discontent about how the world is going to hell. He's also drawn look-a-like comparisons to Vice President "Diamond" Joe Biden.

Despite diving puppet-head first into politically charged topics like gay marriage and gun rights, Dunham's act is more populist than edgy or offensive. We all have that older aunt or uncle who has a little too much to drink and starts busting out racist jokes. If you're looking for real messed-up social commentary in a comedy act, you'll probably be more satisfied with the Louis CKs and Kevin Harts of the world.

Regardless of whether Dunham is funny or not, there's no denying that he is an extremely talented ventriloquist. He brings his puppets to life with an excellent sense of instinct for copying human expressions and voice timing. And through these proxy puppets, Dunham mimes his brand of topical and often un-PC brand of comedy. The comic often incorporates two puppets at once on stage, and his, you know, not-moving-his-mouth-while-talking skills are really something to see.

Of course, choosing to pay almost \$50 to see it in person is something people must decide for themselves.

christopher.allen@umontana.edu
@chrisbrianallen

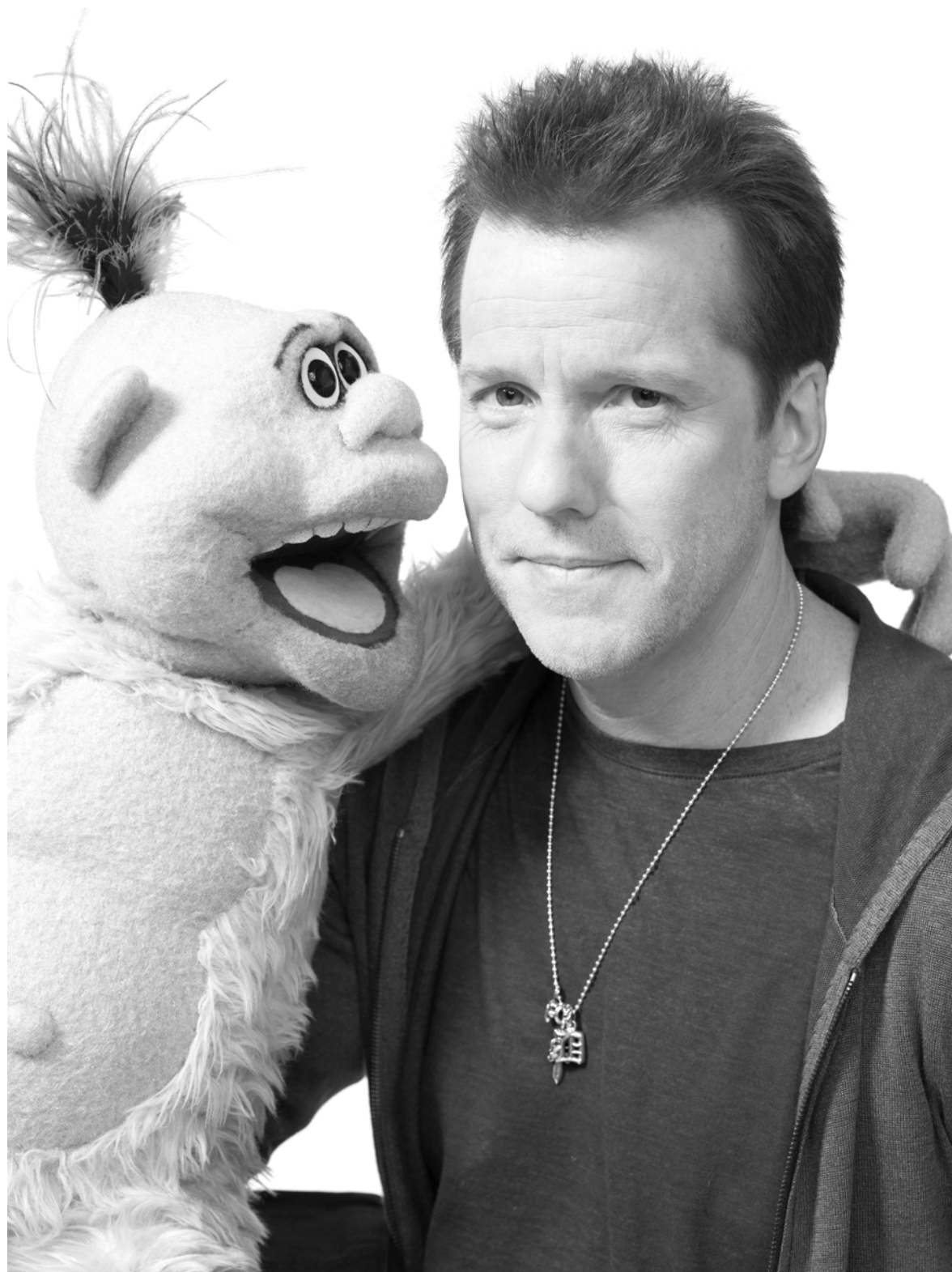


Photo courtesy of Jeff Dunham

It's a little dirtier than Sesame Street. A-list comedian Jeff Dunham makes jokes without moving his mouth at the Adams Center Thursday night.

2013 ASUM ELECTION REFERENDA

Reserved ASUM Senate seats for representatives of
The Missoula College and the Graduate School

The Associated Students of The University of Montana (ASUM), having twenty six senate seats available to the student body, proposes reserving two of these seats for one representative from The Missoula College and one representative from The Graduate School, the remaining to be voted upon at-large. Do you support the reservation of two senate seats for representatives from The Missoula College and The Graduate School?

Yes, I support the reservation of two senate seats for representatives
from both The Missoula College and The Graduate School.

No, I do not support the reservation of two senate seats for representatives
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Piling on the plates

Can all of Missoula's new eateries last?



Candace Rojo/ Montana Kaimin

Jacob Stalnaker adds sauce to a bowl of Brazilian cuisine at Tuesday afternoon. The restaurant opened on Higgins three weeks ago.

Eben Wragge-Keller
Montana Kaimin

The tongues are talking around the town about the tons of tasty new eateries.

Five On Black, Plonk, Dickey's BBQ, The Walking Mustache and the Top Hat have opened, or are set to open, this spring. But with the sudden influx of new restaurants to downtown, some established businesses might be feeling a squeeze.

Tom Snyder, the owner and operator of Five on Black, believes the Brazilian cuisine his restaurant has to offer sets him apart from the competition in Missoula.

"We thought of the idea and played around with the food and the cooking style, and just fell in love with it," Snyder said. "Then we went down to Brazil for a couple months and ate as much as we could and took in the culture and the experience and the people. After coming back it just confirmed that this kind of food — this style of cooking — needed to be brought back to Missoula."

But timing is everything. Since its opening three weeks ago they have made little effort to market themselves, relying on word of mouth and 'guerilla marketing' to get the word out. With steadily increasing business and sixteen employees on staff, Snyder is curious to know

if his business is operating under the 'honeymoon' period, but says he is constantly evaluating and refining the way the business runs on a day-to-day basis.

Snyder says the goal for Five on Black is to put fresh, healthy, and inexpensive hot food on the market, and the business' unique take on traditional Latin cuisine is more appealing than confusing.

"I think that Missoula was just kind of primed and ready for new design options and experiences," Snyder said. "You look at Missoula, we haven't had a lot of new choices come up in a while, so I think people were just ready for something a fresh new take on food."

With five restaurants opening in such a short period of time, some business owners could be expected to feel the pressure. But Snyder says he feels no competition, and that the fact that each new eatery offers something unique enough to not step on any toes.

"I think the more that people see downtown as an eating destination — whether that's because of one restaurant or ten restaurants — I think that the more they get that in their head that 'I'm gonna eat tonight. I'm gonna go downtown' then I think it does wonders for everywhere downtown and every restaurant downtown."

UM's Director of the Bureau

of Business and Economic Research Center, Patrick Barkey, doesn't see the state of the economy as the cause of the sudden boom, but suggests the two factors are operating consistently together, rather than a lead/follow relationship.

"Interest rates are really really low, so if people have to borrow to buy the franchise, or buy the equipment, whatever they have to do to get the restaurant going, then it seems like an attractive time," Barkey said. "There's a reason why they've been low — the Federal Reserve and all the people who have been managing the economy have been trying to keep them low, for just this reason, to encouraging investment and risk taking and things like that."

But whether or not all five new restaurants can stay in business is another issue. Though it is possible given the upcoming summer tourist traffic, Barkey believes that there is a limit to how much growth the local economy can support.

"Restaurants are an interesting business because they compete, to some extent, for local dollars. So there is a squeeze-out possible," he said. "But squeezing out what, you know? Grocery stores? Other restaurants, etcetera?" Barkey said. "The question is, if five new

See EATERIES, page 12

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Ramzi Bitar mixes duties and cultures for baseball team



Samuel Wilson/ Montana Kaimin

Ramzi Bitar hits grounders to the University of Montana baseball team on Tuesday at Ogren Park at Allegiance Field. Bitar will leave his role as club president when he graduates at the end of the 2013 season.

Grady Higgins
Montana Kaimin

There is a stark cultural contrast between the two sides of Ramzi Bitar’s family, but those differences have molded him.

Bitar is of Palestinian descent on his father’s side and Caucasian ancestry on his mother’s. As the University of Montana baseball team’s president, the senior left fielder said that he credits his Arab roots

with giving him his leadership qualities.

“My Palestinian heritage has taught me to never give up and that when things seem too hard, you have what it takes within you to get above it,” Bitar said. “I believe having those qualities has made me tougher mentally. I’ve always just felt like a natural-born leader.”

Bitar said his love for America’s pastime, however, stemmed completely from his mother and her father, Grover Cleveland Harlow, a WWII veteran and bullpen catcher for the

New York Yankees in the 1940s. Bitar said that he has only a few memories of his grandfather.

“I only knew my grandfather for three years, but he somehow instilled the passion for competition and leadership in my heart,” Bitar said. “And my mom has carried on that tradition.

“Coming from a cross-culture family, my dad always wanted to see me kicking around the soccer ball and my mom wanted to see me play baseball, but I chose baseball early on and never really

looked back,” Bitar said.

A Missoula native, Bitar played Legion baseball for the Missoula Mavericks in high school. During tryouts for the Mavs when he was 15, Bitar ended up meeting one of his best friends, and his current coach, Griz manager Ryan Sharkey.

Bitar said the pair formed a special bond over their playing career with the Mavs — as he was the starting catcher and Sharkey one of the pitchers.

“We hit it off right away and

See BASEBALL, page

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8	4	5	1	6	2	3	7	9
2	7	9	8	4	3	5	6	1
4	5	1	7	9	6	2	8	3
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2013 ASUM ELECTION REFERENDA

ASUM Transportation Fee

The proposed ASUM Transportation Fee increase will cover the costs of bus maintenance, fuel, and driver wages. The proposed fee increase will also help avoid a decrease in services, as well as enhance bicycle infrastructure such as: covered bike parking, repair stations, bikeways, and an improved bike checkout program.

Do you support a Transportation fee increase of \$3.50 per semester for full-time students?

Yes, I support an ASUM Transportation fee increase of \$3.50 per semester for full-time students.

No, I do not support an ASUM Transportation fee increase of \$3.50 per semester for full-time students.

Weber takes fifth in BSC tournament to end golf career

Alexandria Valdez

Montana Kaimin

The final round of golf on Tuesday was bittersweet for University of Montana senior Olivia Weber.

The round, which came at the Big Sky Conference tournament in Chandler, Ariz., was Weber's last on the collegiate stage. During Weber's first tournament as a sophomore in 2011, she finished 22nd. This year, she finished tied for fifth overall, shooting 217 for the best collegiate tournament of her career and besting Jasi Acharya's record total of 219 in 2006 for Montana.

"I was nervous the first day and the last two days," Weber said. "I was just mostly really excited and I was hoping to go out with a bang and feel like that my hard work paid off. I was so overjoyed that I

could make that happen."

Montana wrapped up their season with a tie for eighth place in the Big Sky Conference championship, tying with Montana State. Northern Arizona played three sub-300 rounds in the tournament to win its seventh Big Sky Conference golf championship.

The Griz were not able to overcome opening day struggles to make a run at the conference title. Three Griz players who were playing in their first Big Sky Conference tournament had troubles from the start. Junior Lindsay Reeve went 13-over (85), freshman Phoebe Tan went 15-over (87) and freshman Hayley Bingham went 16-over (88).

Two of Montana's players were able to salvage a solid start to the tournament on Sunday. Weber opened the tournament with a

1-under (71), which left her in a tie for second. The Griz's most consistent player, sophomore Tara Green, had difficulties on the first day and shot 7-over (79) on Sunday.

Montana's three first-time conference players and the team overcame a shaky start to have the teams' best finish on Tuesday. The Grizzlies had a final-round 2-over (290) for the best round in program history and matched the best round by any team at the tournament. It was 11 shots better than other round Montana played this season.

"We started off with a difficult round but made some improvements which showed resilience and a lot of fight from our players," Coach Emily Milberger said.

Of the three new players at the tournament, Milberger said Reeve

improved the most. Reeve, a junior transfer from New Mexico State, started out the tournament rough. On Sunday, she finished with a 13-over (85). Reeve improved by nine shots on Monday and finished the tournament with a 72, the best round of her tournament.

Reeve said she gained a lot of insight on her play after the first day of play.

"I think all of us were a little frustrated because we know that course and we know that we can play well," Reeve said. "I know for myself that I was hitting the ball well but my putting was really off. After the round I just worked with coach a lot on my putting. I changed my putting style a little bit the next two days and I learned a lot from the first round."

Freshmen Tan and Bingham rebounded the final two days of

the tournament and finished with a 244 and 249 respectively. Sophomore Tara Green finished tied for 18th with a 228.

The team loses Weber to graduation. Many players still have two or three more years left playing for the Griz, but Milberger is ready for next year.

"We had some really good highlights-some really good learning opportunities," Milberger said. "I watched our younger players grow at an exponential rate. I think it's been a good season for us. We had our senior cap off a great year. It's exciting to see her pass that off to our younger players and I think it's really going to pay off in the future."

alexandria.valdez@umontana.edu
@A_N_Valdez

BASEBALL

had three amazing seasons together," Bitar said. "I feel truly blessed that that relationship has been able to continue from striking guys out in high school to recruiting guys to come get strikeouts for the Griz."

After graduating high school, Bitar worked as a sheet metal apprentice for three years, but in 2010, Sharkey, a player-coach for the Griz at the time, convinced him to attend UM and play catcher for the team. Bitar said it was a life-changing decision that couldn't have worked out better.

"It was just a win-win situation that must've been created by a higher power," Bitar said, "because not only have I been able to participate in something that I love on a daily basis, but it's given me the ability to attend a great academic environment at UM."

Bitar became team president

in his second year with the club in 2011. His duties as president include representing the baseball team on the UM Club Sports Union, aiding Sharkey in recruiting, promoting the team and working in the community with events such as youth baseball camps.

Sharkey said that Bitar has been instrumental not only in helping move Griz baseball forward on the diamond but from behind the scenes as well.

"Ramzi is not only a great player, but he has been key in helping run the team from the administrative side," Sharkey said. "We kind of hit a plateau when I was having to run things on the administrative side and be the manager as well."

"He's been great to have around because he's not only improved the business side of our club but he serves as a great intermediary between me and the guys. I tend to stick to the baseball side of things and he

can help pound on morale and work on an individual level with the guys as well."

Junior infielder Brad Bell said that he and his teammates couldn't have asked for a better forerunner and teammate.

"It's really been a pleasure to play with Ramzi these past three years because he's been the spark plug for our team," Bell said. "He's the ultimate example of what being a team-

mate is. He doesn't play everyday, but he always works his butt off on the field while still running things behind the scenes. I don't know how he keeps it all together."

Bitar, who has one year of school remaining, will be eligible as a 'super senior' to play with the club next season, but said he is looking to take on more of a coaching role moving forward.

"I'm incredibly proud of what we've been able to accomplish, turning this club from a kind of beer-drinking social club into a team with principles," Bitar said. "We've been able to bring guys in that have a team-first attitude and seeing that transformation has been incredible for me."

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@gradyhiggins

2013 ASUM ELECTION REFERENDA

**One additional referendum is pending approval
by the ASUM Senate on April 24.**

**If it is passed, it will appear on the
ASUM ballot on May 1-2.**

**If it does not pass,
it will not appear
on the ballot on May 1-2.**

2013 ASUM ELECTION REFERENDA

Kless Revolving Energy Loan Fund (KRELF) and the ASUM Sustainability Fee

The ASUM Sustainability Fee is an optional \$6 per student per semester fee that generates over \$80,000 each year, which is dedicated to the Kless Revolving Energy Loan Fund (KRELF) and the ASUM Sustainability Coordinator position.

The fee would be opt-out to give students the option of not supporting the fund.

Yes, I support the passage of an optional \$6 per student per semester fee to continue the Kless Revolving Energy Loan Fund (KRELF) and the ASUM Sustainability Coordinator position.

No, I do not support the passage of an optional \$6 per student per semester fee to continue the Kless Revolving Energy Loan Fund and the ASUM Sustainability Coordinator position.



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BAUCUS
From page 5

Montanan, was elected to the Senate in 1978 after two terms in the House. He became the top Democrat on the Finance Committee in early 2001. He has held the position ever since on the panel — which has jurisdiction over taxes, Medicare, Medicaid, health care and trade — as chairman when his party held a majority and as senior member of the minority when Republicans were in power.

The panel has a long tradition of bipartisanship, but Baucus ascended to power in an era of increasing partisanship in Congress.

Many Democrats were unhappy when he worked with Republicans to enact the tax cuts that President George W. Bush won in 2001. And then again in 2004 when Congress pushed through a GOP plan to create a new prescription drug benefit under Medicare, a measure that most Democrats opposed as a giveaway to the large drug companies.

Baucus stood with fellow Democrats in 2005 when Bush proposed legislation to partially privatize Social Security, an epic battle that ended in defeat for the president's effort.

He played a central role in the enactment of Obama's watershed health care legislation in 2010, although some inside his party complained that precious momentum was lost while he spent months on bipartisan negotiations that ultimately proved fruitless.

More recently, Baucus has expressed opposition to Democratic proposals to use an overhaul of the tax code as a means of raising additional revenue. He was one of four members of his party to oppose the budget the leadership brought to the floor with a requirement to that effect.

On other issues large and

"The opportunity to try and get the country moving again like we did in Montana, that's appealing."

Brian Schweitzer,
Governor of Montana

small, Baucus' voting record reflected his rural state.

Most recently, he voted against legislation that Obama backed to expand background checks for gun purchasers.

During the debate on the budget, he was the only Democrat to vote for a proposal to reopen White House tours. Most members of his party viewed the GOP measure as an attempt to embarrass Obama, but it would also have meant more money for clearing snow from the entrances to Yellowstone National Park, a portion of which is in Montana.

For more than a decade, Baucus has sought federal assistance for the residents of Libby, Mont., where asbestos contamination from a vermiculite mine has been linked to deaths and illnesses.

Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., said he learned of the retirement plans on Monday. He said Baucus told him he wanted to return to Montana, and noted

that if he waited until the end of his next term he would be nearly 80.

Baucus, in the interview with the AP, said: "Been here 40 years. No regrets. It is time to do something different."

Maneuvering began almost instantly for the 2014 race.

"The opportunity to try and get the country moving again like we did in Montana, that's appealing," said Schweitzer, who outpolled Baucus in a hypothetical matchup in the recent poll. "I'm a fixer."

Possible Republican candidates include former Gov. Marc Racicot; former Rep. Denny Rehberg, who lost to Baucus in 1996 and to Tester last fall; former Rep. Rick Hill and Rep. Steve Daines. State Sen. Champ Edmunds of Missoula and former state Sen. Corey Stapleton, had already announced they would run against Baucus.

"Montana is a state where Republicans can and will do well," said Sen. Jerry Moran

of Kansas, the GOP campaign committee chairman, pledging to provide the resources needed to turn the seat Republican.

The state twice voted against Obama in presidential races. Despite the president's presence on the ticket in 2012, Tester won a second term in a hotly contested challenge, and another Democrat, Steve Bullock, was elected governor.

Sen. Michael Bennet, D-Colo., who heads the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, touted last year's re-election of Tester and said, "We will continue to invest all the resources necessary to hold this seat."

Democrats will be defending 21 seats next year, compared with 14 for Republicans.

Baucus joined Jay Rockefeller of West Virginia, Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey, Tim Johnson of South Dakota, Tom Harkin of Iowa and Carl Levin of Michigan in announcing his retirement plans.

Republicans Saxby Chambliss of Georgia and Mike Johanns of Nebraska also have decided not to seek re-election next year.

EATERIES
From page 9

ones come online, and three existing ones go out of business, that's a net addition of two."

Sanchon Stearns, the general manager at Taco Del Sol, has noticed the sudden influx in new restaurants, but said she isn't worried about it affecting her business at all.

"I know we're excited for that; I mean they're all really different, really unique, really cool ideas, and so any kind of fresh perspective, we welcome," Stearns said. "I think Five On Black is probably the most similar to us, but I know that I'm excited for that."

Taco Del Sol has been sling-burritos to Missoula residents since 1997, and struggled when it first opened its doors. Stearns said customers who weren't familiar with burritos and traditional Mexican dishes would unwrap their food and eat the insides with a fork and a knife. Taco Del Sol has come a long way since then, with four locations spread out across the town.

"Anything that brings people downtown and gets people spending money downtown is a good thing," Stearns said.

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2013 ASUM ELECTION REFERENDA**Amendment to the ASUM Constitution -
Composition of the Board on Budget and Finance**

The Board on Budget and Finance is currently composed of seven members: ASUM Business Manager, one or two ASUM Senators and the remainder as Students-at-Large. This increase would add the ability of ASUM to appoint two additional Senators to the Board on Budget and Finance, bringing the Board's total to nine.

Yes, I support increasing the size of the Board on Budget and Finance.
No, I do not support increasing the size of the Board on Budget and Finance.



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